

INFORMATION DIGEST
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF
THE ARCTIC**

December 2020

KEY TOPICS:

STATE POLICY IN THE ARCTIC
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
TOURISM IN THE ARCTIC



STATE POLICY IN THE ARCTIC

30 December 2020, TASS

Organizing Committee for preparation of Russia's presidency in the Arctic Council approved

Members of the Organizing Committee include Advisor to the Russian President Anton Kobaykov; Minister for the Development of the Russian Far East and Arctic Alexei Chekunkov; Special Presidential Representative for International Cooperation in the Arctic and Antarctic Artur Chilingarov; Head of the Russian Federal Agency for Tourism Zarina Doguzova; Minister of Natural Resources Alexander Kozlov; Governor of St. Petersburg Alexander Beglov; CEO of the

United Shipbuilding Corporation Alexei Rakhmanov; CEO of the Roscongress Foundation Alexander Stuglev. The Committee has a total of 27 members.

The Arctic Council is the leading intergovernmental forum for promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic states, indigenous peoples and Arctic residents to jointly address Arctic-related issues that include sustainable development and environmental protection.

tass.ru/politika/10388195.html

25 December 2020, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

Russian Government will review the new state programme for the Arctic development

The Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East has submitted a draft action plan for the Russian Arctic Zone Development Strategy until 2035 to the Russian Government for reviewal. This was announced by Yury Trutnev, Deputy Prime Minister and Presidential Envoy to the Far Eastern Federal District, at a meeting of the Arctic Development Commission.

rg.ru/2020/12/25/v-pravitelstvo-vnesena-novaia-gosprogramma-razvitiia-arkticheskoy-zony.html

24 December 2020, The Arctic

New preferential loan rules set for the Arctic residents

The Russian Prime Minister has approved the rules for preferential lending to the Arctic zone residents.

From now on, loans will be granted for projects in sectors determined by the Presidium of the State Commission for Arctic Development, except for logging, fishing, and mineral extraction. The cost of the investment project should be RUB 10 million–2.5 billion, and if it is implemented by several companies applying for a loan, the upper limit goes up to 5 RUB billion. The document also stipulates that the applicant must invest at least 30% of its own funds and ensure the creation of new jobs.

ru.arctic.ru/economics/20201224/989634.html

23 December 2020, Gazeta.ru

The Roscongress Foundation and the Ministry for the Development of the Far East and Arctic signed a cooperation agreement

The Roscongress Foundation and the Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and Arctic concluded a cooperation agreement to promote investment and foreign economic activity. The document was signed by Alexei Chekunov, Minister of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and Arctic, and Alexander Stuglev, Chairman CEO of the Roscongress Foundation.

gazeta.ru/gazeta/adv/13411388.shtml

21 December 2020, TASS

Infrastructure subsidy rules for the Arctic Zone approved

Mikhail Mishustin approved the subsidy rules for the creation and reconstruction of infrastructure in the Arctic. The companies operating in the Arctic zone will be partially reimbursed for their expenses in this area. Until 2023, RUB 13 billion will be allocated for this support measure

tass.ru/ekonomika/10308195

14 December 2020, TASS

Four Far Eastern Development Institutes will be merged

Changes will affect the following Far Eastern development institutes: Far East Human Capital Development Agency; Far East Investment and Export Agency; the Far East Development Corporation (FEDC), and the Far East and Arctic Development Fund. These organizations will be merged into a single institution for the development of the Russian Far East. Thus, Russian and foreign investors and partners implementing projects in the Far East and the Arctic will have a

'one-stop shop'. This consolidation will improve the efficiency of interaction between the state and business and will make this process as fast and comfortable as possible for citizens.

tass.ru/ekonomika/10250753

8 December 2020, TASS

The Arctic will get over 180 new jobs over 15 years

The implementation of new investment projects, as well as the development of existing operations will create more than 182 thousand jobs in the Russian Arctic zone by 2035.

tass.ru/ekonomika/10203915

2 December 2020, The Arctic

A large gas chemical facility is planned in the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous District

The creation of a gas chemical facility in the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous District was discussed at a meeting chaired by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

As Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak noted, the large gas and chemical cluster in Yamal will help to attract more than RUB 2 trillion in investments and create 20 thousand new jobs. Non-commodity and non-energy exports will grow by RUB 125 billion a year.

ru.arctic.ru/infrastructure/20201202/988657.html

NORTHERN SEA ROUTE

18 December 2020, RIA Novosti

The unique platform North Pole was launched in St. Petersburg

The North Pole platform is a mobile polar station. It can be in autonomous voyage for up to two years with the crew and scientific personnel onboard and host year-round polar expeditions.

Geological, acoustic, geophysical and oceanographic research of the Arctic will be conducted on the platform. The polar station is capable of drifting on its own in the ice. It has a helipad for Mi-8 AMT (Mi-17).

ria.ru/20201218/platforma-1589902839.html

18 December 2020, Arctic Russia

Developing cargo traffic along the Northern Sea Route was discussed at the Russia-Norway roundtable in the Ministry for the Development of the Far East and Arctic

In the first nine months of 2020, the volume of freight traffic on the NSR amounted to 24.5 million tonnes. And by 2024, according to Putin's decree, this figure should reach 80 million tonnes. The NSR is more environmentally efficient than other transportation routes, and Russia intends to ensure that its operation meets the most stringent environmental standards.

arctic-russia.ru/news/razvitie-gruzoperevozok-po-severnomu-morskomu-puti-obsudili-v-minvostokrazvitiya-v-khode-rossiysko-n

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

14 December 2020, Lenta.ru

The Ministry for the Development of the Far East and Arctic submitted Arctic tourism development plan for reviewal

The Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East has submitted to the Russian Government a draft state support programme for traditional economic activities of indigenous peoples living in the Arctic. The initiative proposes tourism development in this region. First Deputy Minister for the Development of the Far East and Arctic Alexander Krutikov spoke about

these plans during the panel session entitled 'Arctic tourism: high potential and new opportunities' at the 10th International Forum "Arctic: Today and the Future".

lenta.ru/news/2020/12/14/turizm

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

16 December 2020, Lenta.ru

Russia and Finland discussed preservation of the environment of the North

Representatives of the Murmansk Region government took part in the Russian-Finnish webinar "Joint actions for clean environment of the North".

At it, in particular, it was discussed that the largest high-latitude landfill in Drovyanoy is planned to be liquidated. Now, it was possible to install a stationary system of dust suppression with the use of fog guns. In the near future, a new programme for the general cleaning of the Arctic and a plan to implement a system for handling solid municipal waste in the North is planned to be developed.

lenta.ru/news/2020/12/16/eco

TOURISM IN THE ARCTIC

15 December 2020, Lenta.ru

Developing the Arctic transport infrastructure will ensure 2 thousand new jobs

About two thousand jobs will be created through the construction of the Northern Latitudinal Railway, which will connect the Northern Sea Route and the Trans-Siberian Railway.

The new project will not only provide people with jobs but will also improve the mobility of northerners due to the year-round operation of four passenger trains along the route Vologda–Salekhard–Nadym and further to the east. Additionally, in Komi plans to build Sosnogorsk–Indiga railway 612 kilometres long, which will be a part of the 'Barentskomur' route. The project will provide access to the deep-water port of Indiga for exporting of oil and gas, mineral and timber resources

lenta.ru/news/2020/12/15/transport_arctic

11 December 2020, RIA Novosti

St. Petersburg can become the point of departure for tourists travelling to the Arctic

"Local authorities are already discussing the opportunity to organize such tours with the Government of Karelia, which is part of the Arctic zone. Besides, St. Petersburg has Arctic-related sites as well," added Deputy Governor Eduard Batanov.

In September, Head of Russian Agency for Tourism Zarina Doguzova urged to actively promote the Russian Arctic, forming an image of an accessible region for tourists.

ria.ru/20201211/arktika-1588768219.html

The Roscongress Foundation is a socially oriented non-financial development institution and a major organizer of international conventions; exhibitions; and business, public, sporting, and cultural events. It was established in pursuance of a decision by the President of the Russian Federation.

The Foundation was established in 2007 with the aim of facilitating the development of Russia's economic potential, promoting its national interests, and strengthening the country's image. One of the roles of the Foundation is to comprehensively evaluate, analyse, and cover issues on the Russian and global economic agendas. It also offers administrative services, provides promotional support for business projects and attracting investment, and helps foster social entrepreneurship and charitable initiatives.

Each year, the Foundation's events draw participants from 208 countries and territories, with more than 15,000 media representatives working on-site at Roscongress' various venues. The Foundation benefits from analytical and professional expertise provided by 5000 people working in Russia and abroad. In addition, it works in close cooperation with 133 economic partners; industrialists' and entrepreneurs' unions; and financial, trade, and business associations from 70 countries worldwide.

roscongress.org

WWW.ROSCONGRESS.ORG

ORGANIZER OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM